

Codebook for Data Used in Hansen and Treul, “Prior Experience and State Legislative Effectiveness,” *Legislative Studies Quarterly*.

- SLES – measure of state legislative effectiveness score measured continuously and normalized with a mean of one within each chamber-term (BVW)*
- bill_norm – first-stage component of state legislative effectiveness score capturing fraction of bills introduced and normalized with a mean of one (BVW)**
- aic_norm – second-stage component of state legislative effectiveness score capturing fraction of bills receiving action in committee and normalized with a mean of one (BVW) **
- abc_norm – third-stage component of state legislative effectiveness score capturing fraction of bills receiving action beyond committee and normalized with a mean of one (BVW) **
- pass_norm – fourth-stage component of state legislative effectiveness score capturing fraction of bills passed within chamber and normalized with a mean of one (BVW) **
- law_norm – fifth-stage component of state legislative effectiveness score capturing fraction of bills signed into law and normalized with a mean of one (BVW)**
- SLES_ratio – measure of state legislative effectiveness relative to expected effectiveness given seniority, leadership positions, and majority-party membership (BVW)
- lawyer – indicator for legislator’s occupational background. 0 = nonlawyer, 1 = lawyer (M)
- government – indicator for legislator’s occupational background. 0 = does not work in government, 1 = works in government (M)
- poladv – indicator for legislator’s occupational background. 0 = does not work in politics & advocacy, 1 = does work in politics & advocacy (M)
- comm_chair – indicator for leadership position. 1 = committee chair, 0 = not (BVW)
- Leader_speakerpres – indicator for leadership position. 1 = chamber speaker or president, 0 = not (BVW)
- Leader_majleader – indicator for leadership position. 1 = majority leader, 0 = not (BVW)
- Leader_minleader – indicator for leadership position. 1 = minority leader, 0 = not (BVW)
- power_comm – indicator for committee seat. 1 = sits on power committee, 0 = not (BVW)
- seniority – count of two-year terms legislator has served consecutively in chamber (BVW)
- pred_bla – probability that legislator is Black (BVW)
- pred_his – probability that legislator is Hispanic (BVW)
- female – indicator for gender. 1 = woman, 0 = man (BVW)
- in_majority – indicator for majority party membership. 1 = yes, 0 = no (BVW)
- ideo_med_distance – ideological distance between legislator and chamber median (BVW)
- gov_same_party – indicator for shared partisanship with governor. 1 = yes, 0 = no (BVW)
- senate – indicator for chamber. 1 = Senate/upper chamber, 0 = House/lower chamber.
- inc – indicator for legislators who are returning incumbents. 1 = yes, 0 = no (BVW)
- priorlower – indicator for whether first-term state senator had previously served in state’s lower chamber. 1 = yes, 0 = no (BVW)
- pasthouse – indicator for whether state senator (any seniority) had previously held previously served in the state legislature. 1 = yes, 0 = no (BVW)
- prioroffice – indicator for whether legislator had previously held any elected office. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- localprior – indicator for whether legislator had previously held local elected office. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)

- stateleg – indicator for whether legislator had previously held previously served in the state legislature, in either chamber and before interrupted terms. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- localcouncil – indicator for whether legislator had previously held previously served in a local city council or other legislative office. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- mayorlocalexec – indicator for whether legislator had previously held previously served as mayor or other local executive office. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- schoolboard – indicator for whether legislator had previously held previously served on a school board. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- otherlocal – indicator for whether legislator had previously held previously served in any other local elected office not listed above (e.g. as DA, judge, clerk, etc.). 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- nolocal – indicator for whether legislator had previously held never served in any local elected office. 1 = yes, 0 = no (HT)
- lagSLES – a one-term lag of a legislator’s SLES (BVW)

*Sources for each variable noted with the following keys: BVW—Bucchianeri et al. (2025) via Lollis (2024); M—Makse (2019) via Lollis (2024); HT—original to this paper.

**Normalization for stage variables was calculated for this analysis within Lollis’ (2024) data and therefore does not perfectly correspond to Bucchianeri et al.’s (2025) original data.

References

- Bucchianeri, Peter, Craig Volden, and Alan Wiseman. 2025. “Legislative Effectiveness in the American States.” *American Political Science Review*. 119(1): 21–39. doi:doi.org/10.1017/S0003055424000042.
- Lollis, Jacob. 2024. “Are Workers Effective Lawmakers?” *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 24: 270–86. doi:doi.org/10.1017/spq.2024.8.
- Makse, Todd. 2019. “Professional Backgrounds in State Legislatures, 1993–2012.” *State Politics & Policy Quarterly* 19(3): 312–33. doi:10.1177/1532440019826065.